

## Fire Doors In Existing Buildings

**In Existing Installations**, the following doors or methods are approved when a fire-rated door is required. Installation of a new door, or replacement of an old door, must be done in accordance with the Uniform Building Code.

1. A listed 20 - minute fire door assembly; or
2. A solid wood door 1 3/4 inch thick; or
3. A solid wood door 1 3/8 inch thick when the frame will not support a thicker door; or
4. An insulated steel door 1 3/8 inch thick when the frame will not support a thicker door; or
5. In panel doors with 1 3/8 inch thick solid wood rails and stiles not complying with methods 1-4, the following will be acceptable:
  - a. 2 inch sheetrock applied above the handle and 2 inch plywood applied below the handle covering the panel. Sheetrock may be used on the bottom but must remain structurally intact. The material must be attached with screws, bolts, or other approved methods; nails are not acceptable. Molding may be applied but can not be used to hold the materials in place unless the molding will not burn or melt when exposed to fire. The materials may be cut to just fit inside the panel or overlap the rails and stiles. An air space between the door and material is acceptable; or
  - b. Sheet metal (24-28 gauge) applied over the panels and attached to the rails and stiles. Aluminum and similar metals with low melting temperatures are not acceptable; or
  - c. Sprinkler heads installed above the door. The head must be a Central Window Sprinkler or similar. The water supply may come off of the domestic supply provided the supply is adequate. The Saint Paul Water Utility must also approve any sprinkler installation; or
  - d. Other methods may be considered when deemed equivalent to one of the above methods or tested in accordance with NFPA 252. The Fire Marshal will make such approvals.

Note: Fire doors may not be required if the building is completely protected with a sprinkler system.

**All fire doors must be self-closing or automatic-closing by smoke detection and positive latching.**

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